

Bayfield County Administrator

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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RE: BUDGET SEASON AND COMMUNITY INPUT

As the State of Wisconsin wraps up their bi-annual budget process local units of government across the region are ramping up their own process.

Bayfield County Board Chair Dennis Pocernich describes the county budget as, "one of the most important tasks of a County Supervisor."

The months of July and August are a focus period for county departments and committees. With budget submittals due the end of August, elected officials and county staff bring ideas, trends, and key priorities together.

"This is the perfect time for citizen input," stated Vice-Chair, Fred Strand. "If you have specific ideas on county projects or direction this is the time of year to share them!" Ideas can be sent to any county department, a county board supervisor, or the County Clerk of County Administrator offices for distribution.

"County Board Supervisors have a good idea on the needs of our county, but citizen input is critical to confirm, correct, adjust, and reinforce the Board's direction," remarked Board Chairman Pocernich. Every committee meeting has a public comment section. Public input is encouraged.

Once budgets are submitted in August, a proposed balanced budget, compiling County Department needs, is assembled and presented to the County Executive Committee the second Thursday in September. After that, the Committee assembles as a "Committee of the Whole" meeting four to six times over a 5-week period to propose a final budget to the County Board the end of October. Once approved, the budget goes into effect on January 1 of the new year. The Bayfield County budget covers a one-year period.

County Department and meeting information is available at: www.bayfieldcounty.wi.gov. Other questions, call: 715-373-6181